



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TRES RIOS FIELD OFFICE
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323
www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/sjplc.html



In Reply Refer To:
4100 (COS01000)

Gypsum Valleys Allotment Grazing Permit Renewal
Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2012-0034

OPTIONAL REPLY JULY 31, 2015

Dear Interested Public

Please find for your review is the Preliminary Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2012-0034) (EA) that was completed for analyzing the effects of renewing the 10-year term grazing permit for the Gypsum Valleys Allotment (#08068). Alternative C (Adaptive Management) contained in this analysis is the BLM's preferred alternative. This EA replaces and updates the EA titled "Livestock Grazing Use on Three BLM Allotments in the Vicinity of Lower Disappointment Valley, Colorado" (CO-800-2008-043EA) issued on August 6, 2009. It contains additional monitoring information collected on the Gypsum Valleys Allotment after release of the original EA in 2010.

The previously issued EAs (2009 and 2010) were prepared to evaluate the potential effects of renewing the 10-year term grazing permits for the Gypsum Valleys, Disappointment Creek and RCA grazing allotments. Following the comment period in 2009, extensive substantive public comments were received, the EA was then revised and a second version was re-sent for public comment on August 23, 2010. After reviewing the additional comments received to the analysis contained in Version 2, it was determined that a separate EA be completed for analyzing the potential effects of renewing the term grazing permit for the Gypsum Valleys Allotment only.

A separate EA will be completed for the Permit Renewals for the RCA and Disappointment Creek Allotments in the next several months.

The Tres Rios Field Office will be accepting public comment on this EA for 30 days. If you are interested in providing us with comments, please submit them

in writing to Michael Jensen at the Tres Rios Field Office, 29211 Highway 184, Dolores, CO 81323 on or before July 31, 2015.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Michael Jensen, Rangeland Management Specialist of my staff at (970) 882-6828.

Sincerely,

/s/ Connie Clementson

CONNIE CLEMENTSON
Field Office Manager

Enclosure(s)

1 – Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2012-0034)